Statement

Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices of Pulses and their percentage variation
(Base : 1981-82=100)

Commodity	Wholesale Price Index		Percentage Variation
	Sept. 1994	Sept. 1993	Sept. 1994 / Sept. 1993
Pulses	361.4	308.0	+17.3
Gram	384.6	330.1	+16.5
Arhar	346.5	323.9	+7.0
Moong	294.7	272.0	+8.3
Masoor	294.9	240.3	+22.7
Urad	436.8	291.5	+49.8

SOURCE : Office of the Economic Adviser, Ministry of Industry.

Items under Certified Standard Quality Category

1710. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) how many items belong to the certified standard quality category;

(b) what is the machinery for watching the observance of the specified quality and other conditions;

(c) whether in practice, BIS standards fail to protect consumers and if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) which are the common public complaints/grievances brought to ths notice of the authorities and what steps are taken to redress them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) The number of product presently covered under BIS product Certification Marks Scheme is 1438.

(b) Before granting the licence to use ISI Mark, BIS satisfies itself that the manufacturer is capable of producing goods Standard on a continued basis. Indian Standard on a continued basis. Every licensee has to follow a well defined Scheme of Testing and Inspection which prescribes the specific tests and their frequency. The quality of products of the licensees in relation to the relevant Indian Standards is watched by BIS through the surveillance mechanism provided under the Certification Marks Scheme which include periodic surprise inspections of the manufacturing premises ?.nd testing of products of the licensees by the competent engineers and scientists of BIS.

(c) By prescribing quality parameters, Indian Standards protect the interests of consumers.

(d) Complaints/grievances mainly relate to the quality of ISI-marked products. These are thoroughly investigated and, if found correct, both corrective as well as punitive actions are taken against the licensees. The licensees are also re quired to arrange redressal of the complaints by way of replacement/repairs of the products.

Extension/Reappointment of Members of District Consumer Forum

1711. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHAN DRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBU-TION be pleased to state :

(a) whether extension can be given to the Members of the District Consumer Forum or they can be reappointed;

(b) if so the details thereof;

(c) which are the districts consumer foram in which the Members have been given extension of their term and where they have been reappointed; and

(d) the body or authority to whom such matters are referred and whose decision is final in such cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) to (d) According to Section 10(2) of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, as amended in 1993, every member of the District Forum shall hold office for a term of 5 years or upto the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier, and shall not be eligible for reappointment